



LBPD

LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

August 2008

Crime Watch News

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Community Crime Prevention Meeting



**New Meeting
Location**

Wednesday
August 20, 2008
7:00 P.M.

Groundwater Treatment Plant
2950 Redondo Avenue

NARCOTIC DOGS

Detectives from the Narcotics Section will present a demonstration of their K-9 partners and cover training and deployment.

Please join us for an informative evening at this month Community Crime Prevention meeting. For more information, call the Community Relations Division at (562) 570-7215.



Summer 2008 PERSONAL SAFETY



Summer heat means more people are out in the evening, more cars are on our roadways and there are more social gatherings, parties, and celebrations. The Long Beach Police Department wants you to be safe. By practicing these personal safety tips, you will reduce the opportunities criminals look for when targeting a crime victim.

Safety at Home

- ♦ Lock your doors and windows when you leave your home. The most common method of entry in burglaries is through unlocked doors and windows.
- ♦ Install a peephole with a 180-degree viewing angle so that you can verify who is on the other side of your door.
- ♦ Before opening an exterior door to your home, know who is at the door and do not open the door to an unexpected visitor. This includes utility company employees and other solicitors.
- ♦ Exterior lighting provides additional protection from intruders. Inexpensive timers will automatically turn lights on and off at dusk and dawn.

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stay safe



Remember . . . Awareness is the key to your safety.

Street Sense

- ♦ Walk with confidence. Communicate the message that you are calm, confident, know where you are going, and know what is going on around you.
- ♦ There is safety in numbers. Travel only on well-lighted streets and avoid short cuts through deserted areas.
- ♦ Try not to carry a purse. But if you must, carry it securely under your arm. Never wrap the purse strap around your arm or enter a tug-of-war with a thief trying to grab your purse. You could be seriously injured.
- ♦ Avoid displaying large amounts of cash or other tempting items, such as expensive jewelry.
- ♦ Avoid street solicitors trying to sell you something at a bargain price. If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is.

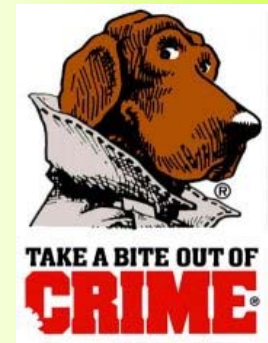
Vehicle Safety

- ♦ Park in well-lighted areas so you can see your car and its surroundings from a distance.
- ♦ Have your car keys ready, look around and under your car and observe other vehicles parked nearby for suspicious persons before approaching.
- ♦ Glance into the backseat and at the floorboards of your car before entering to check for anyone hiding inside.
- ♦ If you think someone is following you, do not go home. Drive to the nearest police station, fire station, open gas station, or well-lighted place where there are people that can help you.
- ♦ If you have car problems, raise the hood and attach a white cloth to the car antenna. Get back into the car and keep the doors and windows locked. If someone stops, ask them to call for help. Do not accept rides from anyone.

While Waiting for a Bus

- ♦ Try to avoid isolated bus stops.
- ♦ Stand away from the curb until the bus arrives.
- ♦ Don't open your purse or wallet while boarding the bus - have your pass or money already in your hand.
- ♦ Don't invite trouble - keep jewelry out of sight; and turn your rings around so the stones don't show.

Peace of mind and safety for your loved ones



CRIME TRIANGLE



The Crime Triangle identifies three factors that create a criminal offense:

Desire of a criminal to commit a crime;
Target of the criminal's desire; and the
Opportunity for the crime to be committed.

You can break up the Crime Triangle by not giving criminals the **OPPORTUNITY**. Stay alert and use good judgment by knowing who and what is around you at all times. You can avoid becoming an easy target.

STAY SAFE!

In an emergency, call 911
 For non-emergency or from your cell phone, call 562.435.6711

Real estate fraud is on the rise throughout the country and can take many forms. Real estate fraud is a form of theft criminals may use to steal your home, real estate holdings or the equity in your property. Your best protection against fraud is to be aware of the warning signs, and report any suspicious activity or transactions against your property.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- **Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office Real Estate Fraud Section**
(213) 580-3200
- **Los Angeles County Real Estate Fraud Hotline**
(800) 973-3370
- **State of California Department of Real Estate**
(213) 620-2072

Real Estate & Mortgage Fraud News & Information

FRAUD
REAL ESTATE FRAUD



COMMON REAL PROPERTY FRAUDS AND WARNING SIGNS:

Home Equity/Identity Theft – A forged deed is recorded to give the appearance that the perpetrator has acquired ownership of a property. The perpetrator uses the equity in the property as collateral to borrow money. No payments are made on the new loan(s), and the true owner could face foreclosure.

Home Renovation/Mortgage Fraud – Contractors offer to do home improvement work or lenders offer special “low-interest” financing, but do not deliver what was promised. Homeowners are left with partially complete or substandard construction, or a mortgage payment that is higher than expected.

Real Estate Investment/Foreclosure Fraud – Investors are lured into buying property that is supposedly facing foreclosure for pennies on the dollar. Quitclaim deeds and other documents are forged to give the appearance that a property is being sold to avoid foreclosure.

Mortgage Fraud:

**Focus On
Mortgage Fraud Prevention**



Missing Property Value Notice or Tax Bill – A missing property value notice or property tax bill can be the first signs of Home Equity Fraud. The Assessor mails property value notices in JULY, and the Tax Collector mails the bills in SEPTEMBER. Call the Assessor's Office at (562) 256-1701 if you do not receive a notice, or the Tax Collector's Office at (213) 974-2011 if you do not receive a tax bill.

You Are Notified That A Property Document Has Been Recorded – The County Clerk-Recorder sends notification to property owners when a document is filed against their property. If you did not initiate the document filing, contact the Long Beach Police Department at (562) 570-7260.

Loan Papers Or Payment Booklets – If you receive documents for a loan you did not apply for, notify the lender immediately.

An “Investment” That Sounds Too Good To Be True – Use good judgment and do your research.



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Crime Watch News

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National Night Out- "America's Night Out Against Crime" Registration and "Meet Your Police" Request Form



Residents throughout Long Beach and across the nation are asked to turn on their porch lights, lock their doors, and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police to help build stronger police-community partnership and neighborhood unity in our fight for a safer community.

We especially would like to acknowledge those of you who will be hosting your own Neighborhood BBQ, Block Party or National Night Out block event. Therefore we would like to schedule a Beat Officer or Crime Prevention Officer to attend your event. Please complete and return this registration form today. Mail, call or fax the following information to the Community Relations Division.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Location of Meeting: _____

Did your group participate in the 2007 annual National Night Out? Yes _____ No _____

What type of event is your neighborhood planning? _____

Contact Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____